

## MWS – Mountain Willow Shrubland (Map Unit 21)



Photo credit: Jim Von Loh



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The Mountain Willow Shrubland (MWS, Map Unit 21) represents a combination of the *Salix monticola* / *Carex utriculata* (Mountain Willow / Beaked Sedge) Shrubland Association and the *Salix monticola* / *Mesic Graminoids* (Mountain Willow / Mesic Graminoids) Shrubland Association.

This map unit is the most common willow type within the monument. It is present at scattered localities along Grape Creek and its tributary drainages occupying narrow, low-gradient streams. The elevations are relatively low, from approximately 8250-8450 feet within the monument. The stands are linear, growing in saturated gravel and peat substrates immediately adjacent to the flowing water. Along the middle reach of Grape Creek there are many beaver dams and ponds within this vegetation type. Mountain willow shrubs grow along the edge of the floodplain, on the margins of the beaver ponds, and persist as shorter and younger shrubs than in other areas.

## MWS – Mountain Willow Shrubland (Map Unit 21) Continued

### Photo Signatures

The Mountain Willow / Beaked Sedge Shrubland Association and Mountain Willow / Mesic Graminoids Shrubland Association are difficult to distinguish from one another. In the natural color aerial photography, MWS appears as medium to dark green, and in color infrared aerial photography it appears as medium red. In both types of photography it has a medium texture and a linear shape. The shrubs are 2-5 meters in height and have a foliar cover of 40-65%. Photo MWS-1 (natural color) was taken in September 1996 and MWS-2 (color infrared) was taken in August 1983. Both photos are of the same location.

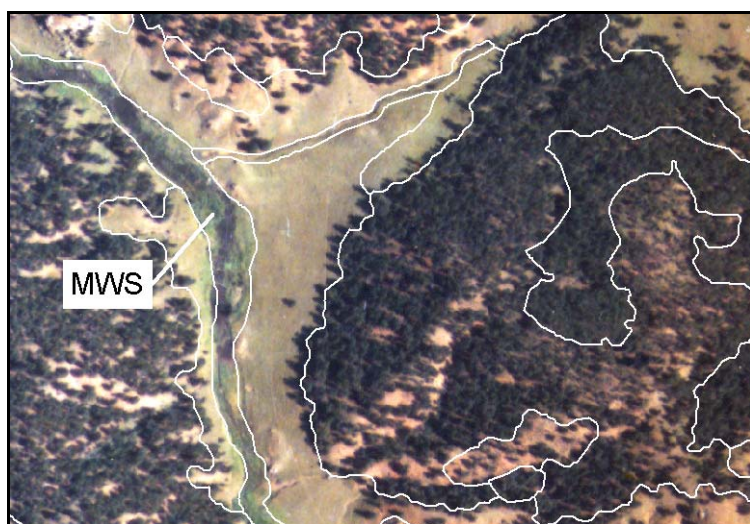
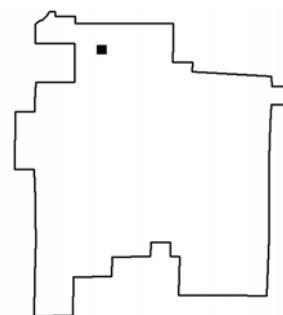


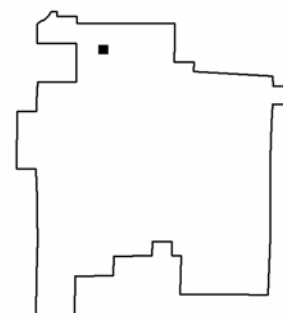
Photo MWS-1



Location of **MWS-1** within  
National Monument



Photo MWS-2



Location of **MWS-2** within  
National Monument

## **MWS – Mountain Willow Shrubland (Map Unit 21) Continued**

### **Area Report for MWS Map Unit**

Number of Polygons: 13

Number of Hectares: 7.4

Number of Acres: 18.3

Average Size: 0.6 hectares, 1.4 acres

### **Accuracy Assessment Results for MWS Map Unit**

The Mountain Willow Shrubland Map Unit was assessed at 90% for producers' accuracy (confidence interval 78-100%) and at 83% users' accuracy (confidence interval 67-98%).